

7

Domestic Girlfriend

KEI SASUGA

D O M E X G I R L

Domestic Girlfriend

7

D O M E
G I R L

KEI SASUGA

DOME GIRL



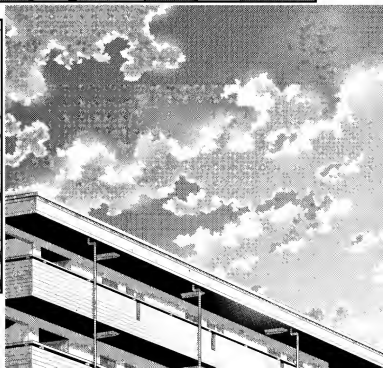
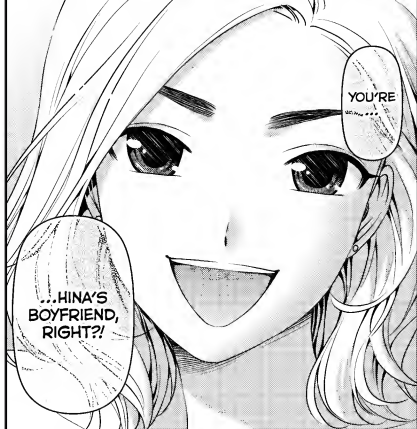
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CHAPTER 56: A STEP FORWARD

D O M E  G I R L







I WAS JUST
GIVING HIM
SOME LIFE
COACHING.

WHY ARE
YOU A
PUDDLE?!

WHAT
HAPPENED,
NATSUO-
KUN?!



...SO SHE'S
STAYING WITH
ME UNTIL
SHE FINDS
SOMEWHERE
TO LIVE.

SORRY,
NATSUO-KUN.
THE PLACE
MAKI HAD
LINED UP TO
RENT WAS
SUDDENLY
GIVEN TO
SOMEONE
ELSE...



...BUT
DON'T
BEAT HIM
DOWN
TOO
MUCH,
OKAY?

IT'S TRUE
THAT OUR
RELATION-
SHIP ISN'T
NORMAL,

AND I
KNOW YOU
PROBABLY
HAVE A LOT
TO SAY...



I WOULD'VE
DECKED
HIM IF HE
TRIED TO
ATTACK ME,
THOUGH.

HE CAME WHEN
I WAS ABOUT
TO HOP IN THE
SHOWER, SO
I TESTED HIM
BY ANSWERING
THE DOOR IN
NOTHING BUT A
TOWEL AND HIS
FACE TURNED
RED AS A
CHERRY.

MAKI

...!



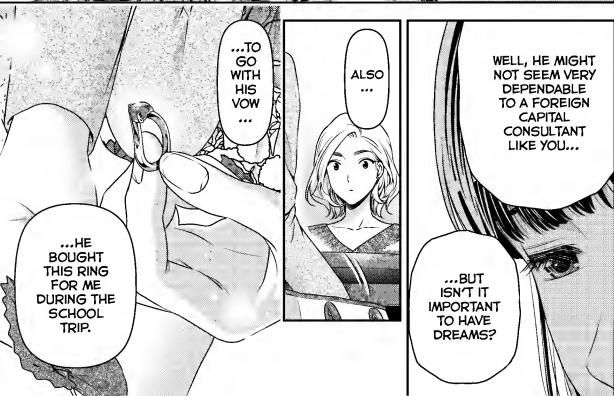
NATSUO-KUN
SEEMED
LIKE A
TRUSTWORTHY
ENOUGH GUY,
ANYWAY.

IT'S NOT LIKE
I WANT TO
PICK APART
YOUR GUYS'
RELATIONSHIP OR
ANYTHING.



...HE SAID
HE WANTED
TO BECOME
A NOVELIST
AND MARRY
YOU, SO I
LECTURED
HIM A BIT.

IT'S JUST
THAT WHEN I
ASKED HIM
WHAT HIS
PLANS WERE
FOR THE
FUTURE...



...HE
BOUGHT
THIS RING
FOR ME
DURING THE
SCHOOL
TRIP.

...TO
GO
WITH
HIS
VOW
...

ALSO
...

WELL, HE MIGHT
NOT SEEM VERY
DEPENDABLE TO
A FOREIGN
CAPITAL
CONSULTANT
LIKE YOU...

...BUT
ISN'T IT
IMPORTANT
TO HAVE
DREAMS?



HINA

...

THAT
MANLY
SIDE OF
HIM...

...MADE ME
THINK THAT WE
COULD MOVE
FORWARD
TOGETHER.



I'M NOT
SAYING YOU
CAN'T BE A
NOVELIST
OR YOU
CAN'T GET
MARRIED,

ANYWAY,
THAT'S
NOT THE
ISSUE.

I'M SAYING
YOUR VISION
FOR MAKING
THAT COME
TRUE IS TOO
NAÏVE!



I
MEAN,

HE
DOESN'T
EVEN HAVE
A JOB,
RIGHT?

SURE, HE
CAN BUY A
RING WITH
HIS PARENTS'
ALLOWANCE,
BUUUT...

PLUNK

WITHOUT
THAT SORT OF
NOTORIETY,
NEW WRITERS
ARE LUCKY IF
THEY SELL ANY
BOOKS AT ALL.

NOVELISTS
STAND OUT
BY WINNING
WELL-KNOWN
AWARDS IN
THEIR TEENS.

DO YOU HAVE
ANY IDEA HOW
HARD IT IS TO
MAKE A LIVING
AS A WRITER
THESE DAYS?

WARD

YOUR DREAMS
MIGHT AS WELL
BE UNATTAINABLE
IF YOUR ATTITUDE
IS JUST, "IT
WOULD BE NICE
IF I BECAME A
NOVELIST."

AND IT
WAS YOUR
CLUB'S IDEA
TO SUBMIT
ONE FOR AN
AWARD, NOT
YOUR OWN.

FROM
WHAT
YOU'VE
TOLD ME,
YOU'VE
ONLY
WRITTEN
TWO
PIECES
OF WORK
SO FAR,

WELL,

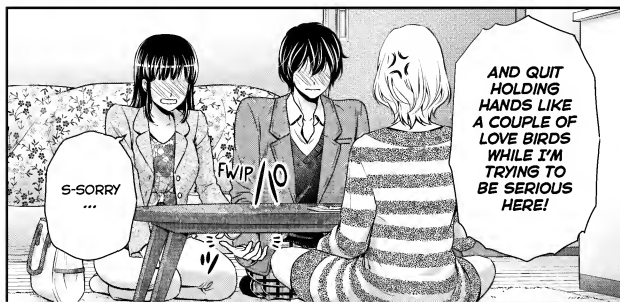
I MIGHT
SOUND
LIKE I'M
BEING A
HARD-
ASS...

...BUT I AM
CHEERING
YOU GUYS
ON.

...

DID
THAT
STING
?

YOU'LL BE
IN FOR A
WORLD
OF PAIN IF
YOU MOVE
FORWARD
WITHOUT A
GRASP ON
REALITY.





THE
FIREWORKS
LOOK
GREAT,
HUH?

WOW!



WE LOOKED
ALL OVER
FOR YOU
DURING THE
SHOW, BUT
WE COULDN'T
FIND YOU,
NATSUO-KUN.

WHERE
WERE
YOU?



I'LL
SEND
YOU
THEM
OVER
LINE
IF YOU
WANT.

HIGH-SPEC
CAMERAS
REALLY MAKE
A HUGE
DIFFERENCE.





DID
SOME-
THING
HAP-
PEN?

YOU'VE
BEEN
KINDA
OUT OF IT
TODAY.

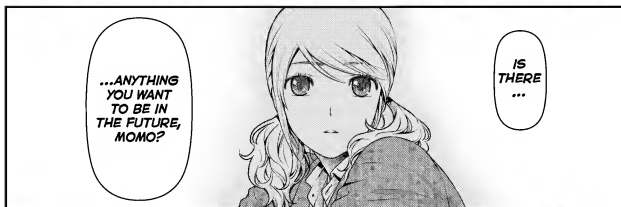
...
BY
THE
WAY.



I WAS
WANDERING
AROUND,
TOO, SO WE
PROBABLY
JUST
MISSED
EACH
OTHER.

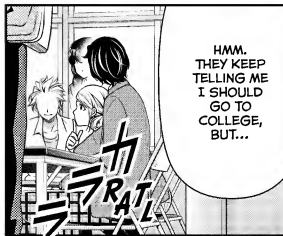
OH
...

AWW.
THAT'S
TOO
BAD.



...ANYTHING
YOU WANT
TO BE IN
THE FUTURE,
MOMO?

IS
THERE
...



HMM.
THEY KEEP
TELLING ME
I SHOULD
GO TO
COLLEGE,
BUT...



YEAH.

YOU
MEAN
LIKE
PLANS
FOR
THE
FU-
TURE
?

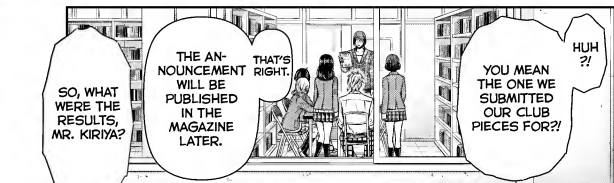
WHAT I
WANT
TO BE?
WHERE'D
THAT
COME
FROM?



THE
RESULTS
FOR THE
AWARD
ARE
BACK.

HEY,
THERE.

I SEE
EVERY-
ONE'S
HERE.
GREAT.



SO, WHAT
WERE THE
RESULTS,
MR. KIRIYA?

THE AN-
NOUNCEMENT
WILL BE
PUBLISHED
IN THE
MAGAZINE
LATER.

THAT'S
RIGHT.

HUH
?!

YOU MEAN
THE ONE WE
SUBMITTED
OUR CLUB
PIECES FOR?!



FOR A
SCHOOL CLUB,
RECEIVING AN
HONORABLE
MENTION
IS A FINE
ACHIEVEMENT.

WHAT
?!

WHO
IS IT?



THE
WINNER
THIS
TIME...



IT
TURNS
OUT...

WE HAVE
A WINNER
FROM OUR
HUMBLE
CLUB.



...RUI
TACHIBANA-
KUN.



Fantastic!

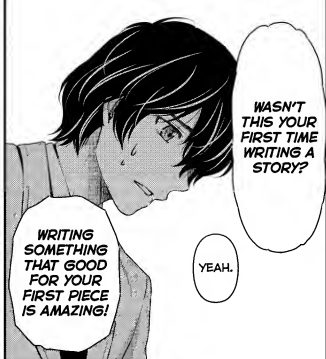
THAT'S
GREAT!
CONGRATS,
RUI-RUI!!

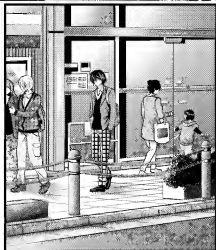
Congratulations,
Rui!



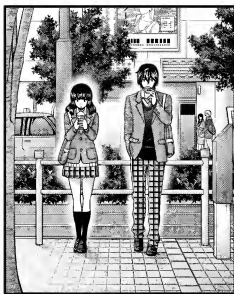
HUH
?!

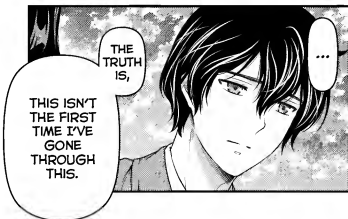
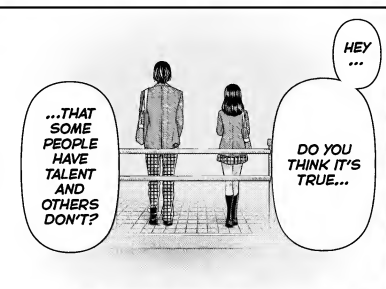
RUI-
RUI
?!













BUT FIRST PRIZE ENDED UP GOING TO SOMEONE TWO YEARS YOUNGER THAN ME FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL.

I WOUND UP GETTING AN THE LOWEST HONORABLE MENTION AND THOUGHT, "YES!"

IN MY THIRD YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL,

I ENTERED A PICTURE BOOK CONTEST I SAW A POSTER FOR AT A BOOKSTORE.



AND THIS IS WHAT I CAME UP WITH.

I THOUGHT ABOUT IT,

THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME THE WORD "TALENT" CAME TO MIND.

I WAS CRUSHED ...



SO I FEEL LIKE THIS MELANCHOLY WILL COME IN HANDY SOMEDAY.

THERE WILL PROBABLY BE PLENTY MORE OCCASIONS LIKE THIS IN THE FUTURE, TOO.

...I PROBABLY HAVE FEELINGS PEOPLE WITH TALENT CAN'T COMPREHEND.

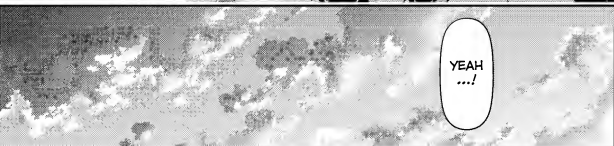
IF I DON'T HAVE TALENT, THEN INSTEAD...



...WE CAN
SWITCH
GEARS AND
TRY HARD
AGAIN!



IF WE TAKE
EVERYTHING
WE CAN
FROM THIS
FEELING OF
HOPELESS-
NESS...



YEAH
...!



YOUR
DREAMS
MIGHT AS
WELL BE UN-
ATTAINABLE
IF THAT'S
YOUR
ATTITUDE.

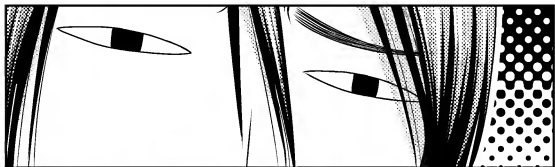
I WANT
YOU TO BE
HAPPY FOR
YEARS TO
COME.







CHAPTER 57:
NOVELIST







WELL
...

TO BE
HONEST,
I TOOK
IT KINDA
HARD.

YOU KNOW
HOW YOU
ANNOUNCED
THE
CONTEST
RESULTS
TODAY?



AREN'T I
ALREADY
YOUR CLUB
ADVISOR?

YEAH,
BUT...



WELL,
I FIGURED
THAT WAS
PROBABLY
YOUR
DREAM,
BUT...



BUT
I WON'T
GIVE UP.

SO I WAS
HOPING
YOU'D LET
ME STUDY
UNDER
YOU...

I FELT
LIKE I
HAD MY
OWN
LACK OF
TALENT
SHOVED
IN MY
FACE.



I
REALLY
...

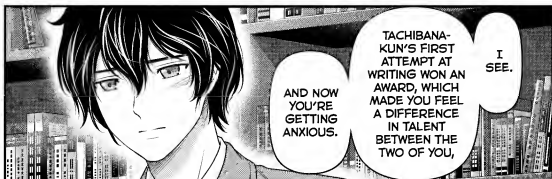
WANT TO
BECOME AN
AUTHOR,
NO MATTER
WHAT!

I WANT
TO MAKE A
LIVING OFF
OF WRITING!



I WANT
...

SOMETHING
TO SHOW FOR
IT AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.



AND NOW
YOU'RE
GETTING
ANXIOUS.

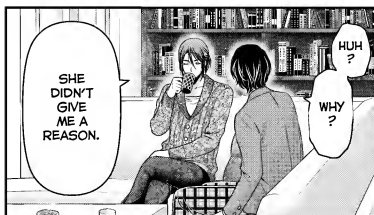
TACHIBANA-
KUN'S FIRST
ATTEMPT AT
WRITING WON AN
AWARD, WHICH
MADE YOU FEEL
A DIFFERENCE
IN TALENT
BETWEEN THE
TWO OF YOU,

I
SEE.



TACHIBANA-
KUN TOLD ME
SHE WANTED
TO DECLINE
THE AWARD.

YOU
KNOW,





ON THE
OTHER
HAND, EVEN
IF YOU'VE
AVERAGE
IN EVERY
REGARD,

AS LONG AS
YOU CONTINUE
TO PUT IN THE
EFFORT, YOUR
CHANCE WILL
COME.

YOU CAN
HAVE ALL
THE INSIGHT,
EXPRESSIVE-
NESS, AND
APTITUDE IN
THE WORLD,

BUT IT
DOESN'T
MEAN
ANYTHING
UNLESS YOU
HAVE THE
RESOLVE TO
PERSEVERE.



REGARDING
YOUR
REQUEST
TO BE MY
PUPIL...

TAKING
THAT
INTO AC-
COUNT,

...

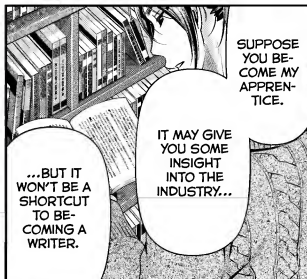


**...IT'S
NOT EVEN
WORTH A
RESPONSE.**



YOU WANT
TO BE A
NOVELIST?
PLEASE...

...



SUPPOSE
YOU BE-
COME MY
APPREN-
TICE.

IT MAY GIVE
YOU SOME
INSIGHT
INTO THE
INDUSTRY...

...BUT IT
WON'T BE A
SHORTCUT
TO BE-
COMING A
WRITER.



WHEN IT
COMES
DOWN TO IT,

YOU'LL
ONLY GET
THERE
THROUGH
STRUG-
GLE AND
HARD
WORK,

FUJII-
KUN.

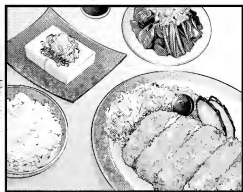
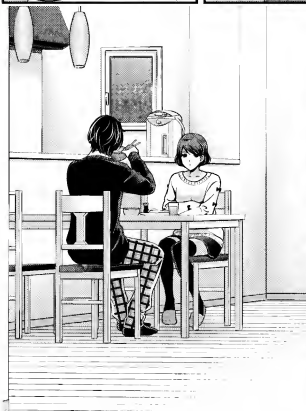


YOU
SHOULD
ONLY RELY
ON OTHER
PEOPLE
AFTER
YOU'VE
EXHAUSTED
ALL YOUR
OWN
EFFORTS.

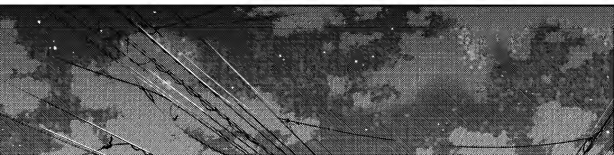
HOW MANY
STORIES HAVE
YOU WRITTEN
UNTIL NOW?

BE-
SIDES
...









NOTHING.

NOTHING.

**I WAS
MORTIFIED.**



IT HAS
NO WINGS.

NO
FANGS.

NO
HORNS.

NO LEGS
TO RUN ON.



SINCERITY
DANGLING
DOWN ITS
NECK,

NOBILITY
WRAPPED
AROUND
ITS
WRISTS.

RICHES
GIVEN
TO THE
BEAST...

IN
EXCHANGE
FOR
EVOLVING.

...ALL MY
SHAMEFULNESS
AND VANITY...

...WAS BEING
EXPOSED.

KIRIYA-
SENSEI'S
WORDS HIT
THE MARK
DEAD-ON.

IT FELT LIKE...

TACHIBANA-
KUN TOLD ME
SHE WANTED
TO DECLINE
THE AWARD.

YOU
KNOW,

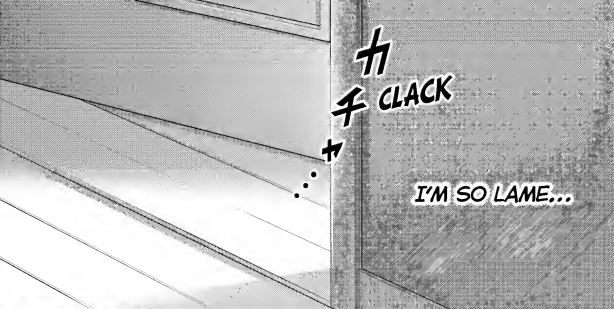
HOW LAME.

I'M
NOT
...

...VERY
HAPPY
ABOUT
IT.

RUI PROBABLY
ONLY SAID THAT...

...BECAUSE I
WAS OBVIOUSLY
DISAPPOINTED.









DUMMY.

LIKE
I'D
CRY
...

CHAPTER 58: IGNITION





I SHOULD'VE
DRAGGED
HER BACK TO
HER ROOM IF
I HAD TO...

IT'S A
REALLY
BAD IDEA
FOR US
TO SLEEP
TOGETHER!

OH,
RIGHT.
I DRIFTED
OFF LIKE
THIS!

ACK
...!

...

THE FACT
THAT SHE
CAME HERE
IN SPITE OF
HER DETER-
MINATION...

...HAS
NOTHING
TO DO
WITH...

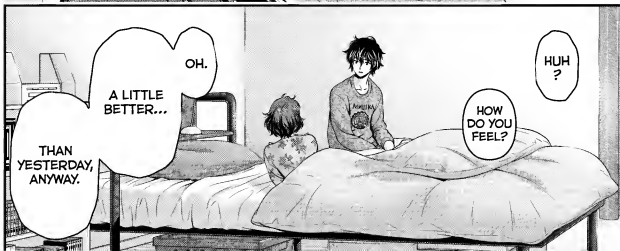
МИШКА



...WHETHER
SHE LIKES
OR HATES
ME.

I'M DOING
EVERYTHING
I CAN,
Y'KNOW!

HOW AM I
SUPPOSED
TO HATE YOU
WHEN YOU GO
AND DO STUFF
LIKE THAT?!



...HINA-NEE
USED TO DO
THIS FOR
ME A LOT.

WHEN I
WAS IN
ELEMENTARY AND
MIDDLE
SCHOOL
...

GOOD.

POMF

SHE'D
SNEAK
INTO MY
BED...

AND WE'D
SLEEP TO-
GETHER.

LIKE ON
DAYS WHEN
I'D MADE
FRIENDS
ANGRY
AND WAS
DEPRESSED,

IT'S
FINE.

IT'S
CRAMPED,
HINA-NEE
...

THERE WERE
TIMES WHEN
I THOUGHT
IT WAS ANNOYING,
BUT...

PARDON
ME, MA'AM.

HEY,
RUI?

IT'S OKAY TO
BE DEPRESSED
SOMETIMES.

WHA?!



WILL
GIVE YOU
STRENGTH
TO MOVE
FORWARD.

LETTING
YOURSELF
STAY DOWN
UNTIL YOU
GET OVER IT
NATURALLY...

IF YOU
RUSH TO
GET BACK
ON YOUR
FEET,

YOU'LL
JUST MAKE
IT HARDER
FOR YOUR-
SELF.

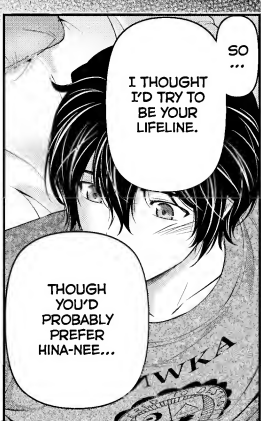


ACTS AS A
SORT OF
LIFELINE,
Y'KNOW?

JUST
HAVING
SOMEONE
AROUND
LIKE THIS...

YOU CAN END
UP SINKING
DEEPER THAN
YOU NEED TO.

BUT
WHEN
YOU'RE
TRAPPED
IN YOUR
OWN
MIND,



SO
...

I THOUGHT
I'D TRY TO
BE YOUR
LIFELINE.

THOUGH
YOU'D
PROBABLY
PREFER
HINA-NEE...



SOUNDS
HARD...

IT'S ALL
ABOUT BEING
DEPRESSED
IN MODERA-
TION.



I PICKED
MYSELF UP
THANKS
TO YOU.

DON'T
BE
SILLY.



HEY!



I THINK
IF YOU
DO...

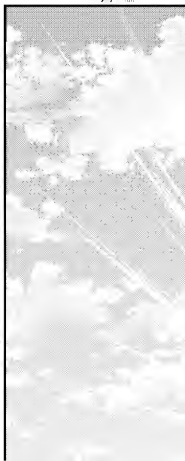
...I'LL
BE MORE
MOTIVATED,
TOO.

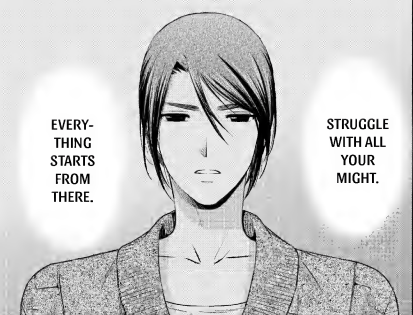


HEY.

I HEARD YOU
TOLD KIRIYA-
SENSEI YOU
WANTED TO
DECLINE THE
AWARD,

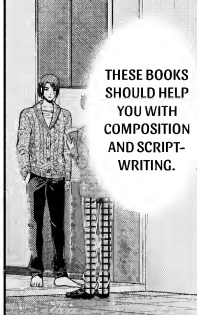
BUT YOU
SHOULD
ACCEPT
IT.



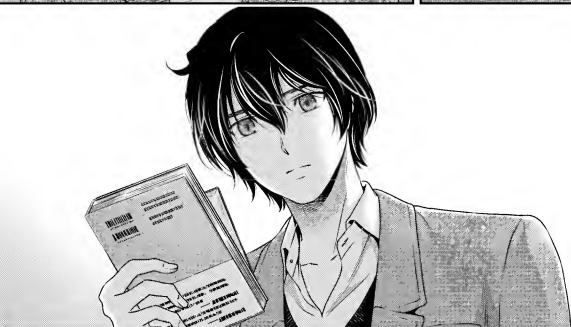


EVERY-
THING
STARTS
FROM
THERE.

STRUGGLE
WITH ALL
YOUR
MIGHT.



THESE BOOKS
SHOULD HELP
YOU WITH
COMPOSITION
AND SCRIPT-
WRITING.

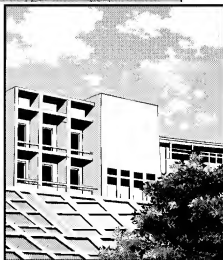


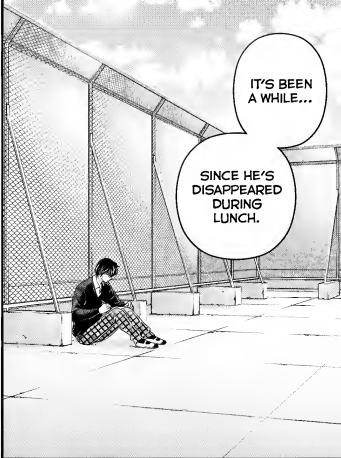
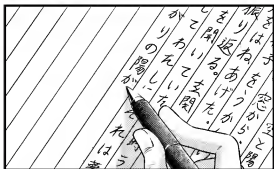
HE RAN
OFF SOME-
WHERE
WITH A
FOLDER.

BEATS
ME.

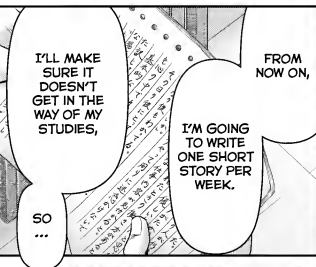
HUH?
WHERE'D
NATSUO
GO?

HUH
...





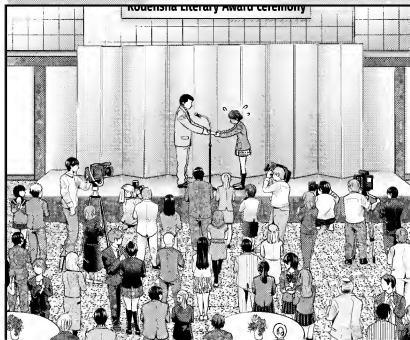
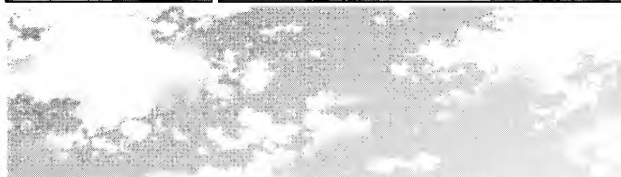
SENSEI.





WITH MY
CORREC-
TIONS,
THAT IS.

JUST SO
YOU KNOW,
I'M RATHER
STRICT.







WHAAAT?
YOU
SHOULD!

I DON'T
EVEN
KNOW IF
I'LL KEEP
WRITING.

NOPE.

OH, OPEN
UP SOME
RED WINE,
WILL YOU,
HINA?



HAVE YOU
DECIDED
WHAT
YOU'RE
GOING
TO WRITE
ABOUT
NEXT?

RUI'S
ALWAYS
BEEN A
BOOK-
WORM.



AND
YOU'RE
DRINKING
WITH ME.
YOU'RE
STAYING
HERE
TONIGHT,
RIGHT?

OH,
PLEASE!
TODAY'S
A SPECIAL
OCCASION!

ARE
YOU
SURE,
MOM?

JUST DON'T
DRINK SO
MUCH YOU
CAN'T WORK
TOMORROW,
OKAY?



THE
CORK
?

HUH
?

IT'S IN
THERE
TIGHT
...

LET ME
GET IT.



GRG
L

MAYBE I
SHOULD...
IT'S BEEN
A WHILE.





DID YOU
THINK
WE'D
FIGHT OR
SOME-
THING?



I WASN'T
SURE IF
THINGS
WOULD
WORK
OUT IN THE
BEGINNING.

Y-
YEAH ?



**HINA,
LOOK
OUT!**



WHO
LEFT
THESE
THERE
?

THAT
WAS
CLOSE.

SAFE!



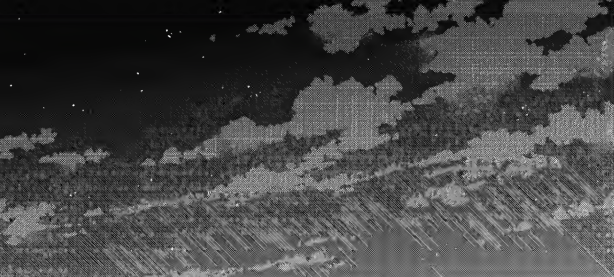
OH.

I DID,
SORRY.



OOP!

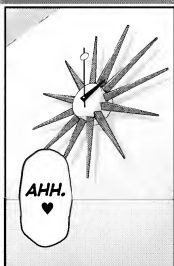
CATCH



NO
KID-
DING.

I COULD
KEEP
THROWING
'EM BACK.

NOTHING
BEATS A
DRINK ON
A SPECIAL
OCCASION.



AHH.
♥



SAY...

IS THERE
ANYONE
SPECIAL IN
YOUR LIFE?



TIME
SURE
FLIES.

MY GIRL'S
ALREADY
24.





WELL
...

THERE IS
SOMEONE
I LIKE...



S-
SPECIAL
?

YOU
KNOW
WHAT I
MEAN.



HMM
...



BY ANY
CHANCE,

YOU
DON'T
MEAN
NATSUO-
KUN, DO
YOU?

CHAPTER 59: DETECTED





I SEE.

WELL
THAT'S
GOOD.



WH-

WHAT DO YOU
MEAN BY THAT?!
OF COURSE
WE'RE CLOSE.
WE'RE FAMILY!

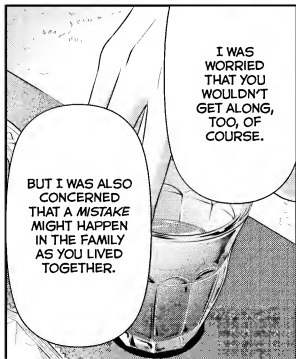
DON'T
DESCRIBE
IT LIKE
THAT!

YOU TWO
SEEMED
RATHER
INTIMATE
TO ME.



YOU KIDS
ARE AT
THAT AGE,
AFTER ALL.

I WAS A
LITTLE
WORRIED.



I WAS
WORRIED
THAT YOU
WOULDN'T
GET ALONG,
TOO, OF
COURSE.

BUT I WAS ALSO
CONCERNED
THAT A MISTAKE
MIGHT HAPPEN
IN THE FAMILY
AS YOU LIVED
TOGETHER.



SO, RATHER
THAN US BEING
AGAINST THE
MARRIAGE,

YOU
WERE
MORE
WORRIED
ABOUT
THAT?

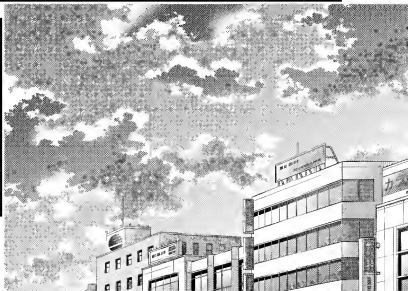
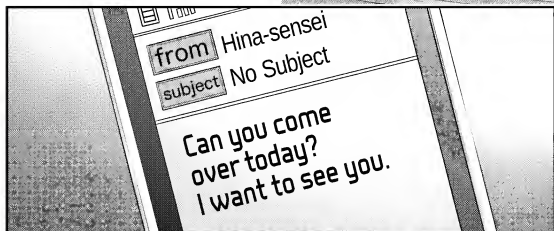
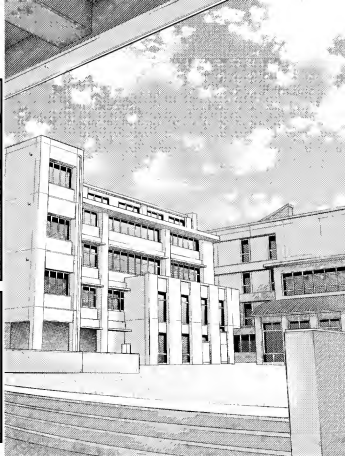
...

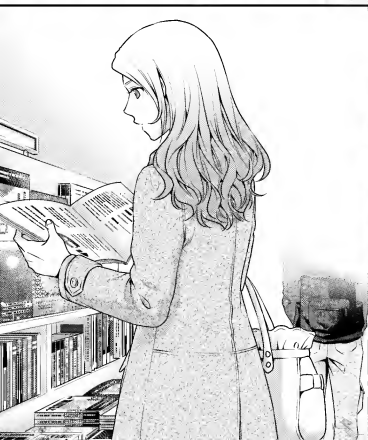
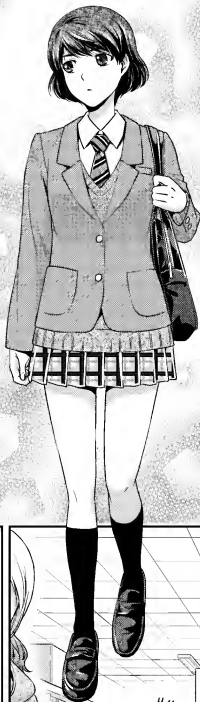
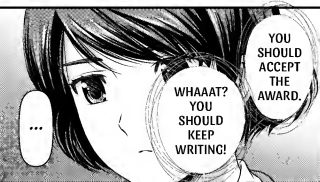
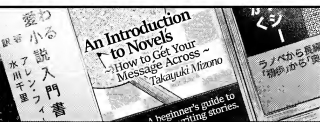


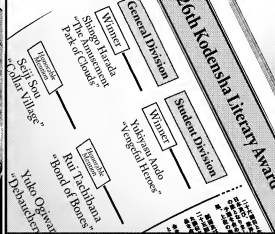
IF I'M WRONG, THEN NEVER MIND.

SORRY FOR ASKING SOMETHING SO SILLY.













...TO HATE
THE PERSON
YOU USED
TO LOVE.

...I WAS
WONDERING
HOW YOU
MANAGED
...



WHY
YOU'D
EVEN
HATE
THEM.

AT FIRST,
I DIDN'T
UNDER-
STAND...

WHAT
?



DO YOU
HAVE A
CRUSH
ON KIRIYA-
SENSEI,
TOO?

HUH
?

NO.

I LIKE
SOMEONE
ELSE.



SO I'VE BEEN
TRYING TO
CONVINCE
MYSELF THAT
I HATE HIM,

BUT
IT'S NOT
GOING
SO WELL
...

BUT WHEN
I REALIZED
MY FEELINGS
WOULDN'T
BE RE-
TURNED,
TOO,

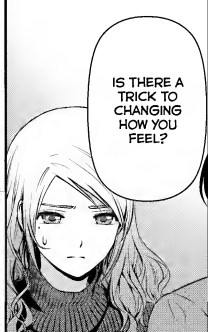
I STARTED
TO GET IT.



HON-
ESTLY,

...

I'M NOT
EVEN
SURE IF I
GENUINELY
HATED HIM.



IS THERE A
TRICK TO
CHANGING
HOW YOU
FEEL?



...

THE
THOUGHT OF
HIM MOVING
ON AND
FORGETTING
ME ENTIRELY
MADE ME SO
RESENTFUL.

I
COULDN'T
FORGIVE
HIM.



AFTER HE
TURNED ME
DOWN, I WAS
SO FULL OF
ANGER AND
SADNESS
BECAUSE I
THOUGHT HE'D
ABANDONED
ME.



AFTER ALL
THIS TIME...

...NEVER
ONCE HAVE I
FORGOTTEN
ABOUT YOU.



BUT
...



...I
COULDN'T
CARE ANY
LESS...

ABOUT MY
RESENTMENT
ANYMORE.



THE
MOMENT
I HEARD
THAT...

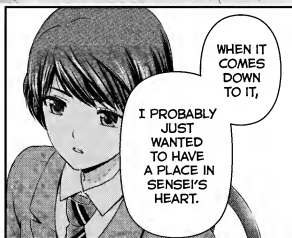


SUKI
?

SAKI!!

THEN YOU
NEVER
ACTUALLY
HATED
SENSEI,
SACHI-SAN?

SAKI!!



WHEN IT
COMES
DOWN TO IT,

I PROBABLY
JUST
WANTED
TO HAVE
A PLACE IN
SENSEI'S
HEART.



...YOU
COULD
SAY THAT.

WELL
...



ARE YOU
STILL IN
LOVE WITH
KIRIYA-
SENSEI,
THEN?

...



FOR THE
RE-
CORD,

I DO
REGRET
...

...WHAT
I DID,
Y'KNOW.



HUH?
DON'T
TELL ME
YOU'RE
STALKING
HIM
AGAIN...

NO!



I BASICALLY
FORCED MY
FEELINGS ON
HIM BECAUSE
MY UNREQUITED
LOVE WAS TOO
PAINFUL AND I
WANTED TO
SETTLE THINGS
...

...BUT I
SHOULD'VE
CHERISHED
THE TIME
WE HAD
TOGETHER
MORE.

RATHER
THAN
PRESS
HIM WITH
WORDS,

I
SHOULD'VE
SHOWN
MY LOVE
THROUGH
ACTIONS.



MY "LOVE"
GOT COR-
RUPTED AND
PUSHED
ME TO DO
SOMETHING
AWFUL.

I
COULD'VE
DONE
THINGS SO
DIFFER-
ENTLY.

EVEN MY
CONFES-
SION WHICH
STARTED
THE WHOLE
THING...



IF I'D
DONE
THAT,

THEN
THINGS
MIGHT
NOT HAVE
TURNED
OUT SO
WRONG.



I WAS
HAPPY
WHEN
I GOT
YOUR
TEX-







I JUST
WANTED TO
SURPRISE
YOU A
LITTLE.

MAKI'S
OUT ON A
BUSINESS
TRIP
TONIGHT,

SO I
THOUGHT
I'D BE AS
LOVEY-
DOVEY AS
I WANT.



**NOPE!
NOTHING
AT ALL!**



HE,
HE.

I TRIED
USING THE
PRESSURE
COOKER.

WOW.

IT LOOKS
GREAT!



VOILA.

I MADE
ODEN
TONIGHT.











CHAPTER 59: ELOPING



WHERE
...

...SHOULD
WE GO?



JUST
KID-
DING.

HE,
HE.



THAT'S
ALL?

C'MON
!

BUT
...



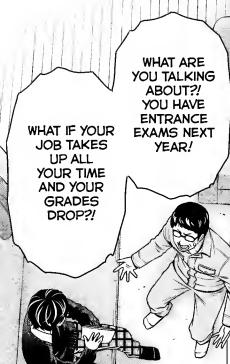
SO I JUST
WANTED TO
BE SPOILED
A BIT!

DID I
SUR-
PRISE
YOU?

I'M KIND
OF TIRED
SINCE
THINGS
HAVE BEEN
SO BUSY
LATELY,







WHAT IF YOUR
JOB TAKES
UP ALL
YOUR TIME
AND YOUR
GRADES
DROP?!

WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?!
YOU HAVE
ENTRANCE
EXAMS NEXT
YEAR!



**A
J
O
O
B
?!**

**H
U
U
H
?!**



ABSOLUTELY
NOT! IF YOU
GET A TASTE
OF WORKING
PART-TIME,
YOU'RE GUAR-
ANTEED TO
WANT TO KEEP
DOING IT!

A SHORT-
TERM GIG
SHOULDN'T
BE A BIG
DEAL!

HOLD UP...
LAST YEAR YOU
SAID, "THE FIRST
YEAR OF HIGH
SCHOOL IS
CRUCIAL. WHAT IF
YOU CAN'T KEEP
UP WITH YOUR
STUDIES?!", AND
STOPPED ME FROM
GETTING A JOB
THEN, TOO!



HOW
OVERPROTECTIVE
CAN YOU GET?!

IS THERE
SOMETHING
SPECIAL
YOU WANT?



YEAH,
RIGHT.
YOU'LL
WORK
YOURSELF
SICK!

**I'LL
DO THAT,
TOO!**

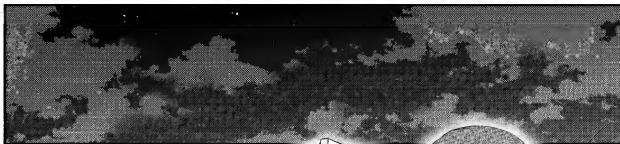
I GIVE YOU
ENOUGH
ALLOWANCE
EVERY MONTH
ALREADY. I'M
AGAINST IT!

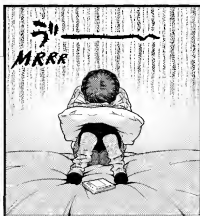
AND DIDN'T
YOU SAY YOU
WANTED TO
FOCUS ON
YOUR WRIT-
ING?!

WHAT
HAP-
PENED
TO
THAT?!



*OTOSHIDAMA IN JAPANESE. MONEY GIVEN TO CHILDREN AND RELATIVES ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.







HMM. WHAT'S YOUR THIRD ONE ABOUT?

AAH. IT'S NOT REALLY MY THIRD...



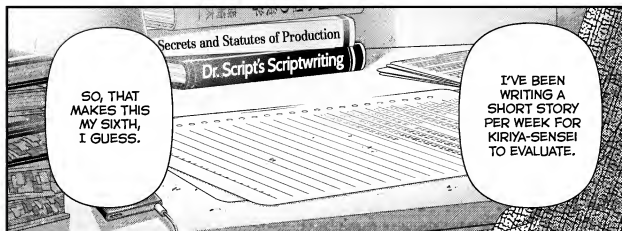
ARE YOU WRITING A NEW NOVEL?

YOU SCARED ME...

WHAT'S UP?

HUH?

OH, YEAH ...



SO, THAT MAKES THIS MY SIXTH, I GUESS.

I'VE BEEN WRITING A SHORT STORY PER WEEK FOR KIRIYA-SENSEI TO EVALUATE.



DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE WRITING ANOTHER ONE IN FIRST PERSON WITH HINA-NEE AS THE HEROINE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "ERR?"

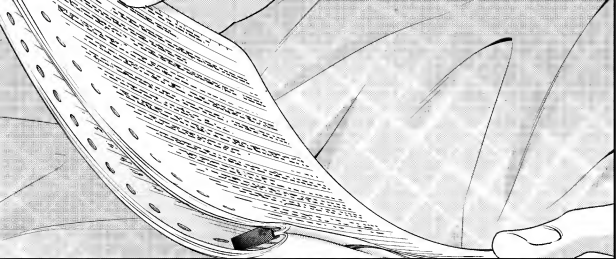
NO WAY!

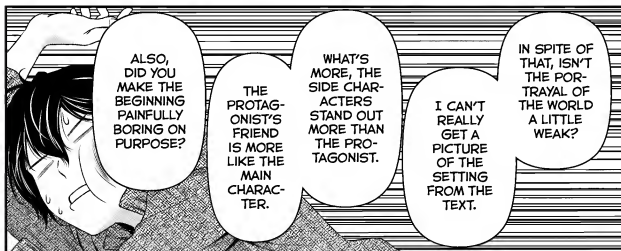


LET ME READ THEM.

HUH... THAT'S COOL.

ERR.



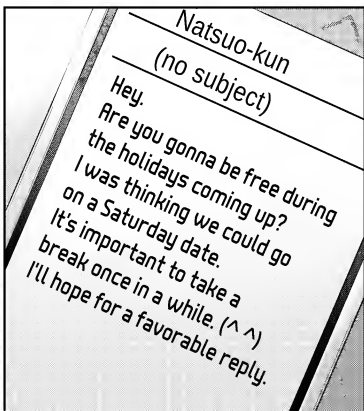




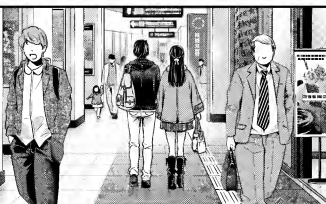


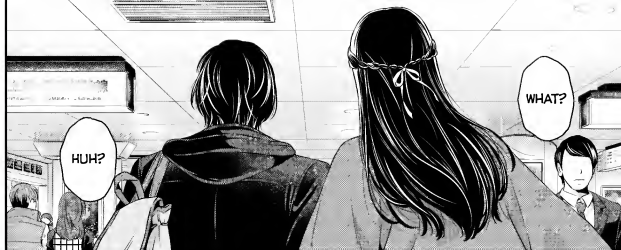














CHAPTER 61: THE NEAR FUTURE



HEY,
NATSUO-
KUN...

ISN'T IT
ABOUT TIME
YOU TELL
ME WHAT'S
GOING ON?

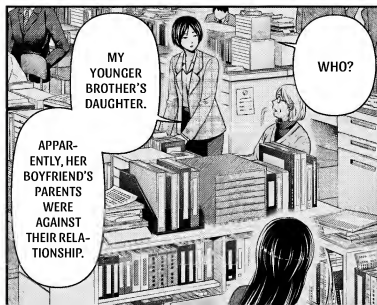


YOU
SHOULD
TRY
SOME,
HINA.

S-SURE.
THANKS
...

THIS
MACKEREL
SUSHI IS
GREAT!

I'M
GLAD I
SKIPPED
BREAK-
FAST.





BUT THEY'D
JUST HAVE TO
BREAK UP IF
THEY DIDN'T
DO THAT,
RIGHT?

DO YOU REALLY
THINK THINGS
WILL WORK OUT
FOR PEOPLE WHO
GET MARRIED
LIKE THAT?

WOW
...

I THOUGHT
THAT SORT OF
THING ONLY
HAPPENED IN
DRAMAS.



JUST
SO
YOU
KNOW,

NATSUO-
KUN...

I'M
PREPARED,
TOO.



I THINK IT'S
ON THEM TO
MAKE THINGS
WORK OUT...



LET'S DO
OUR BEST,
TOGETHER!

AS
LONG AS
YOU'RE
WITH ME,

I'LL GO
ANYWHERE.

日光駅

Nikkō Station

WOULD YOU HAVE PREFERRED SOMEWHERE FARTHER?

WE'RE SURPRISINGLY CLOSE TO HOME.

NIKKO...

TOCHIGI?

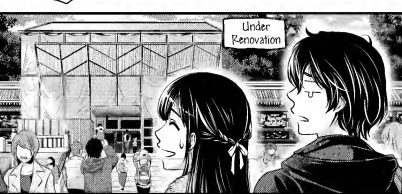
I FIGURED IT'D BE A NICE WAY TO RELAX AND REFRESH.

WE CAN STILL CATCH THE AUTUMN LEAVES IN NIKKO.

SO I THOUGHT A HOT SPRINGS TRIP MIGHT BE NICE.

JUST A LITTLE SURPRISE.

YOU SAID YOU'VE BEEN FEELING TIRED LATELY,



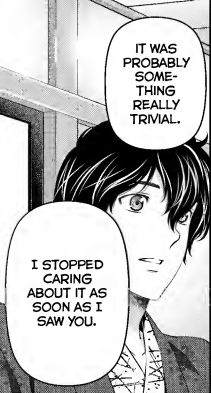


*CHAR: A TYPE OF FRESHWATER FISH.









IT WAS
PROBABLY
SOME-
THING
REALLY
TRIVIAL.

I STOPPED
CARING
ABOUT IT AS
SOON AS I
SAW YOU.



I
FOR-
GOT!



NO,
I'M
NOT!

YOU'RE
DODGING
AGAIN.

...



WE'RE
GONNA
TACKLE
THINGS
TOGETHER
FROM NOW
ON, AFTER
ALL.



IF SOME-
THING'S
BOTHERING
YOU, I WANT
YOU TO TELL
ME INSTEAD
OF BOTTLING
IT UP.

I WANT US
TO BE ABLE
TO TALK
ABOUT ANY-
THING.

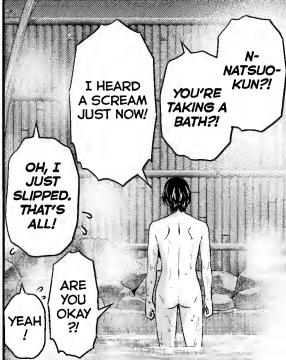
HINA,

I'M YOUR
PARTNER
NOW,
AREN'T I?









I
THOUGHT
THAT IF
I TOLD
YOU,
I'D JUST
MAKE YOU
WORRY
NEEDLESSLY
SINCE YOU
AND MOM
LIVE TO-
GETHER.

SORRY
...

I DIDN'T
WANT YOU
TO FEEL
LIKE YOU
WERE
WALKING
ON EGG-
SHELLS.

IT WAS JUST
A REMINDER
THAT WHAT
WE'RE DOING
IS WRONG.

I THOUGHT I
WAS PREPARED
FOR ANYTHING,
BUT IT KNOCKED
ME DOWN A
COUPLE OF
NOTCHES WHEN
SHE SAID THAT
SHE TRUSTS
ME...

IT'S NOT
LIKE I WAS
EXPECTING
HER TO BE
ACCEPTING
OF OUR
RELATION-
SHIP.

LET'S
TELL
DAD AND
TSUKIKO-
SAN
ABOUT
US.

AFTER I
GRADUATE
FROM HIGH
SCHOOL,

IT WOULD
BE FOR
THE BEST
IF WE
TELL OUR
FAMILY.

IF WE'RE
GOING
TO BE
TOGETHER
FROM
NOW ON,

I WAS
SORT OF
TORN AS
TO WHAT
TO DO,

BUT I'VE
MADE UP
MY MIND
NOW.

...

HINA.

LISTEN
TO ME.





WE
REALLY
ARE ON
THE SAME
WAVE-
LENGTH.





AHH!
THE
FUTON
IS SO
FLUFFY!



THAT'S
THE KINDA
SERVICE
YOU CAN
EXPECT
FROM A
GOOD
INN!

DID THEY
WAIT FOR
US TO
LEAVE THE
ROOM?



SURE.



HINA.

CAN I
GET A
SEC?



EVEN
THOUGH
WE'RE
SPENDING
THE NIGHT...

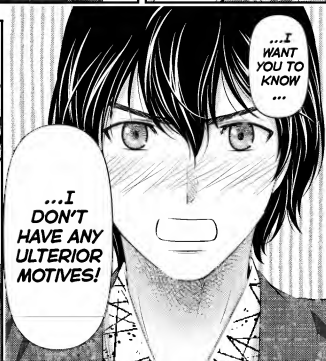
THE
REASON I
PLANNED
THIS TRIP
WAS SO
YOU COULD
RELAX.

JUST
TO BE
CLEAR,



SO, YOU'D
BE FINE
WITH IT IF WE
JUST GO TO
BED NOW?

HMM.



...I
WANT
YOU TO
KNOW
...

...I
DON'T
HAVE ANY
ULTERIOR
MOTIVES!



NOW I
FEEL
KIND OF
SILLY...

FOR
GETTING
MY HOPES
UP.



REAL-
LY?





HINA
...

I'M
GONNA
GO MY
BEST.



NAH,
LEAVE
IT ON.

WANT ME
TO TAKE
OFF MY
YUKATA?

IT'S WAY
SEXIER
THAT
WAY...

**YOU
BIG
PERV!**



YOU
SMELL
SO
GOOD.

HINA!

AH, HA,
HA. WELL, I
JUST TOOK
A BATH,
AFTER ALL.



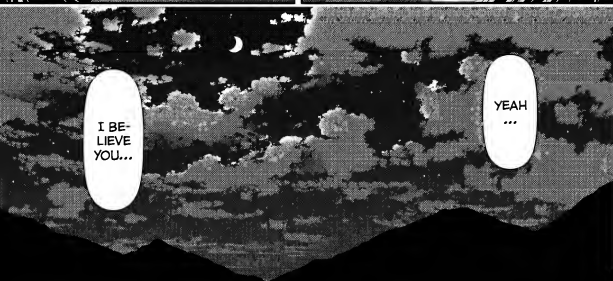
SO...

I'M SURE
YOUR MOM
WILL BE
ACCEPTING
OF OUR
RELATIONSHIP
THEN.



I'LL
WORK
HARD,

AND
BECOME A
CAPABLE
NOVELIST
AS SOON
AS POSSI-
BLE.



I BE-
LIEVE
YOU...

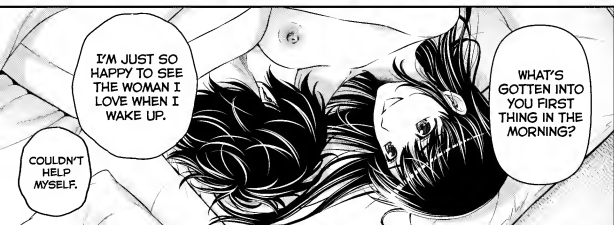
YEAH
...



CHAPTER 62: HAPPY TIMES







STOP BY
WHERE?

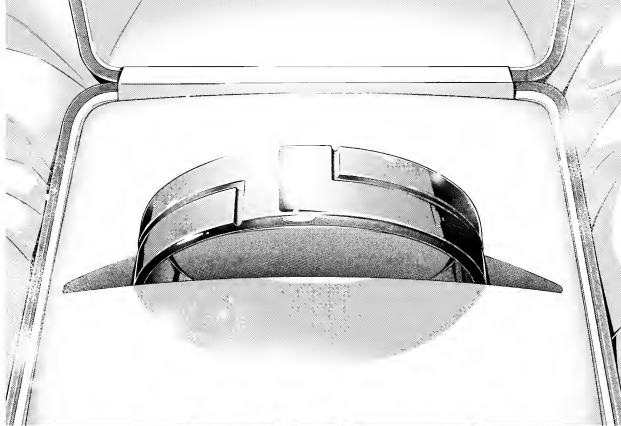
THERE'S
SOME-
WHERE
...

...I WANT
TO STOP
BY BEFORE
WE HEAD
BACK.

THANKS
FOR
WAITING!







IT HAS
INITIALS
IN IT.

A
RING!



....

I'D BEEN
WANTING
TO GET YOU
SOMETHING
FOR A WHILE.



N FOR
YOU,

AND
H FOR
ME.

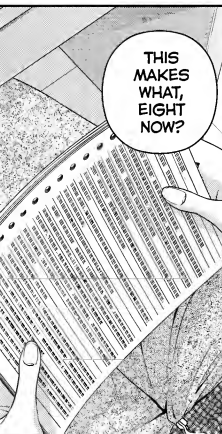
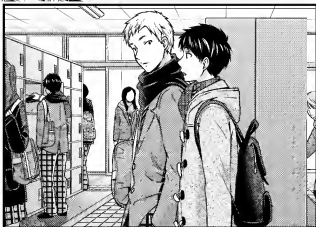
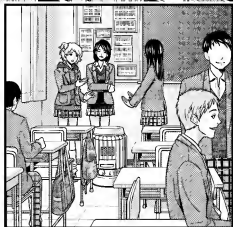




YEAH

...







I WAS SURE A YOUNGSTER WITH A SICKENINGLY-SWEET, NAÏVE MINDSET LIKE YOU WOULD'VE GOTTEN BORED AND GIVEN UP IN NO TIME.

YOU'RE PER-SISTENT.

THAT'S PRETTY HARSH, SENSEI.

SICKENINGLY-SWEETS?



YEAH, THIS IS THE EIGHTH.

UHH ...



L-LAY IT ON ME!

AS FOR THIS WEEK'S WORK...

ALL RIGHT,



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "HUH?"

HUH ?

I MEAN,

YOU'VE TORN THEM APART UNTIL NOW...



IT'S NOT BAD.

TH-THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH!

BUT YOU'RE
CLEARLY
WRITING WITH
ALL OF MY
PREVIOUS
COMMENTS
IN MIND.

THAT'S NOT
TO SAY I
HAVE NO
COMMENTS.

THE
CLINCHER
IS WEAK
AND THE
PROLOGUE
DRAGS ON.

IT'S YOUR
BEST WORK
SO FAR.

HMM...

IT'S DIVIDED
INTO VARIOUS
UNCONVENTIONAL
CATEGORIES AND
IS CURRENTLY
SEEKING
SUBMISSIONS
FOR A MONTHLY
PRIZE.

Literature
Galaxy

WHILE IT'S
NOT A VERY
WELL-KNOWN
MAGAZINE,

OH, I
RECOG-
NIZE IT,
ANYWAY.

ARE YOU
FAMILIAR
WITH THIS
LITERARY
MAGAZINE,
FUJII-KUN?

SOME
REVISIONS
WILL BE
NECESSARY,
OF COURSE.

...!

WOULD YOU
LIKE TO TRY
SUBMIT-
TING YOUR
WORK...

ABSO-
LUTELY!

YES!

TO THE
SHORT
STORY
CATEGO-
RY?



ONE WHO
NEVER
SHOWS, NO
MATTER
HOW LONG
YOU WAIT...

...IS NO
DIFFERENT
THAN A
CORPSE.



SAKU-
RA~

SAKU-
RA~



AND YOU!
QUIT
GETTING
COMPET-
ITIVE AND
FILLING THE
LOG WITH
OLDIES!

MY MA
LOVES THIS
SONG, SO
I HEARD
IT ALL THE
TIME!



ALL THAT
MATTERS IS
EVERYONE
HAS FUN.

WE'RE
HERE TO
CELEBRATE
TACHIBANA-
SAN'S ACHIEVE-
MENT,
AFTER ALL.

NOW,
NOW.

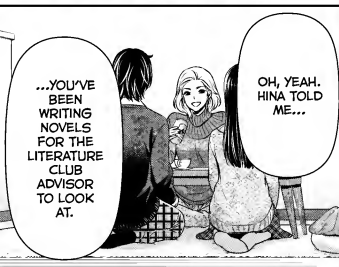
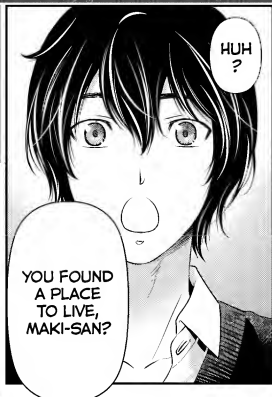
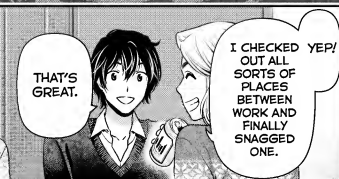
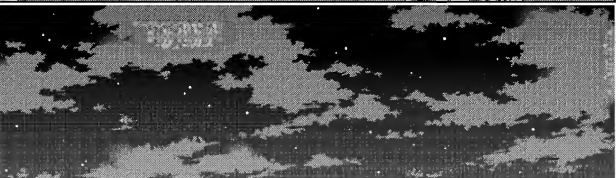


SAKURA,
SAKURA~

A
SNOW-
STORM
OF FLOW-
ERS~

WHY
YOZAKURA
OSHICHI?!

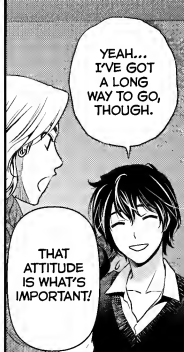
YOU OF ALL
PEOPLE
SHOULD SING
SOME COOL
WESTERN
SONGS!





I FEEL
MORE
AT EASE
LEAVING
HINA IN
YOUR
CARE
NOW.

YOUR
EYES ARE
LOOKING
SHARPER,
TOO.



YEAH...
I'VE GOT
A LONG
WAY TO GO,
THOUGH.

THAT
ATTITUDE
IS WHAT'S
IMPORTANT!



MAKI
...!

YOU WON'T BE
ABLE TO WORK
THE NEXT DAY
IF YOU TRY TO
KEEP UP WITH
A TEENAGER'S
SEX DRIVE.

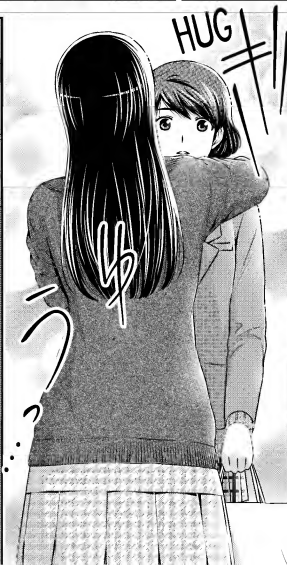
JUST DON'T
GO AT IT LIKE
RABBITS TOO
MUCH.



I GOT
YOU A
SOUVENIR
FROM OUR
TRIP!

TA-
DAAAA!







TACHI-
BANA-
SENSEI.

YES?

I WONDER
IF THEY
DIDN'T
CUT IT.

IS IT
ABOUT THE
PROBLEMS
I SUBMIT-
TED YES-
TERDAY?

SORRY
TO CALL
YOU OUT
HERE.

AH,
TACHI-
BANA-
SENSEI.

EXCUSE
ME.

IT'S
NO
TROU-
BLE.

THE
CHAIRMAN
WANTS TO
SPEAK TO
YOU IN THE
MEETING
ROOM ABOUT
THE FINALS
EXAMS.

OH.

SURE
THING.



THE PHOTOS
FOR THE
GRADUATION
ALBUM CAME
BACK FROM
THE PHOTOG-
RAPHERS.

THIS
APPEARS TO
BE ONE OF
THE FIRE-
WORKS BEING
REFLECTED
IN THE HOTEL
WINDOWS,

BUT CAN
YOU SEE
HERE?



THIS.

SWIF



YES.

YOU
WANTED
TO SPEAK
TO ME
ABOUT
TERM
FINALS?

THAT,
TOO. BUT
FIRST...

THERE'S
SOMETHING
I'D LIKE
YOU TO
LOOK AT.



IN THE
TOP LEFT
WINDOW...



WHAT
...

...DO
YOU
MAKE
OF
THIS?

CHAPTER 63: HINA'S DECISION



JUDGING
FROM THE
LOCATION,
THIS WAS
YOUR ROOM,
WASN'T IT,
TACHIBANA-
SENSEI?



TH-

THIS
IS,

UM
...



YANASE-
SENSEI FOUND
THIS WHILE
CHECKING THE
PHOTOS FOR
THE ALBUM.

IF THERE'S
BEEN A
MISUNDER-
STANDING,
THEN
PLEASE
DON'T
HESITATE
TO SAY
SO.

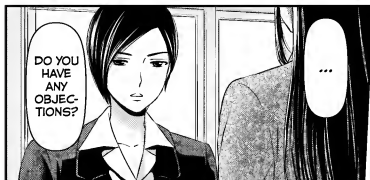


JUDGING
FROM THE
MAN'S
STATURE,
HE DOESN'T
APPEAR TO BE
ONE OF THE
TEACHERS.

IF MEMORY
SERVES ME
RIGHT,

THAT NIGHT, YOU
DECLINED TO
CHAPERONE THE
FIREWORKS
DISPLAY BECAUSE
YOU WEREN'T
FEELING WELL,
CORRECT?

AND AFTER
LOOKING
THROUGH
THE OTHER
PHOTOS THAT
WERE SENT,



DO YOU
HAVE
ANY
OBJEC-
TIONS?

...



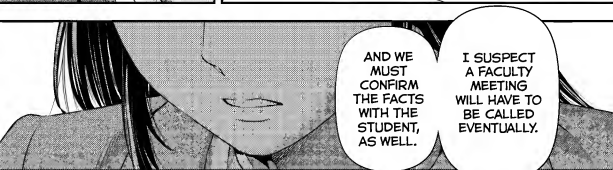
JUDGING
BY YOUR
SILENCE,

I TAKE
IT THAT
THIS IS
TRUE.

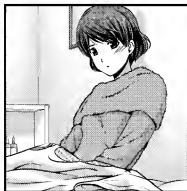


HE
AP-
PEARS
TO BE
...

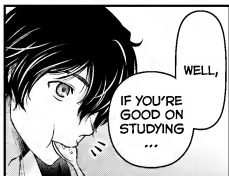
**NATSUO
FUJII.**













WHY
DON'T
WE JUST
TAKE IT
EASY?

IT LOOKS
LIKE THERE
ARE SOME
ATTRACTIONS
THAT DON'T
HAVE THAT
LONG OF
LINES.



SURE
...

BUT WITH
THIS MANY
PEOPLE
AROUND,
WE MIGHT
RUN INTO
SOMEONE
WE KNOW.



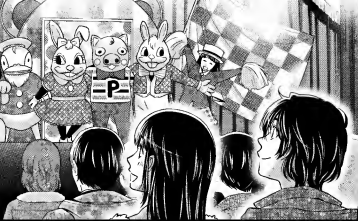
GOOD
CALL!

WANNA USE
THESE AS
CAMOUFLAGE,
THEN?



PHEW
...

IT SURE IS
PACKED ON
SUNDAYS.





WHERE
TO
NEXT?

HOW
ABOUT
THE
PIRATE
SHIP?



MY
HEART'S
STILL
POUND-
ING.

PHEW...
THAT LAST
WATER RIDE
WAS CRAZY.

IF THAT
WAS TOO
MUCH FOR
YOU, THEN
YOU WON'T
BE ABLE
TO HANDLE
THE SPACE
RIDE.



...WE LOOK
LIKE A
REGULAR
COUPLE,
DON'T WE?

HEY.

WHEN
WE'RE
LIKE
THIS...



THOUGH
THERE'S
NOT
REALLY
ANY
POINT...

THINKING
ABOUT
STUFF
LIKE
THAT.



...WOULD
YOU HAVE
STILL
FALLEN
FOR ME?

IF WE'D
ENDED UP
DATING,
WOULD
WE STUDY
TOGETHER
AND GO ON
DATES AFTER
SCHOOL?

HAD MET
AS NORMAL
SCHOOL-
MATES...

IF
WE
...



HUH
?

I THINK
ABOUT IT
FROM TIME
TO TIME.



...I STILL
WOULD'VE
BEEN
DRAWN
TO YOU,
HINA.

NO
MATTER
WHEN OR
HOW WE
MET...



ISN'T IT
OBVIOUS?



WE ARE
JUST
ANOTHER
NORMAL
COUPLE.

AND IF
YOU PUT
ASIDE OUR
CIRCUM-
STANCES,



WE WON'T
BE SO CON-
STRAINED
ANYMORE.

ONCE I
FINISH
SCHOOL,

AND WHEN
THAT
HAPPENS,

IT'D BE NICE
IF WE COULD
BECOME LIKE
THAT, TOO.



MOMMY!
SIT
HERE!

OKAY,
OKAY.



WE ENDED
UP RIDING
A LOT.

THAT
WAS
FUN!



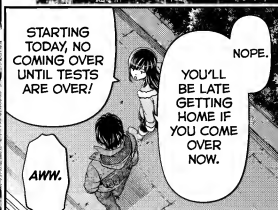
I'LL
WALK YOU
HOME.

IS IT
COOL IF
I COME
IN FOR
A BIT?



HEY.

WILL
YOU
KISS
ME?



STARTING
TODAY, NO
COMING OVER
UNTIL TESTS
ARE OVER!

AWW.

NOPE.
YOU'LL
BE LATE
GETTING
HOME IF
YOU COME
OVER
NOW.



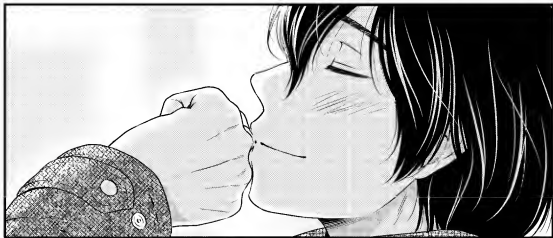
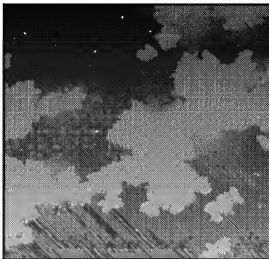
BUT
THAT'S
SO
LONG...







GOOD-
BYE.



STARTING
TOMORROW,
I'LL BE
LIVING THE
GOOD LIFE
AND GETTING
UP WHEN
I PLEASE!

EVERY
DAY WILL
BE A
FESTIVAL!

DUMBASS, I
COULDN'T GIVE
LESS OF A SHIT
ABOUT TESTS.

NOT WHEN
I'M SO
STOKED
FOR WINTER
BREAK!

EVEN
THOUGH
YOUR TEST
SCORES
WERE
TERRIBLE?

MAN,
I FEEL
ON TOP
OF THE
WORLD!

HOW'S
THAT
A BET,
THEN?

I'LL PUT
1,000 ON
LONG,
TOO.

1,000
YEN*
SAYS
IT'S A
LONG
ONE.

WHAT KINDA
SPEECH DO
YOU THINK
WE'LL GET
FROM THE
PRINCIPAL
TODAY?

*APPROX. 10 USD.

I SHOULD
BUY A
CAKE TO
CELEBRATE
THE END OF
THE SECOND
TERM.

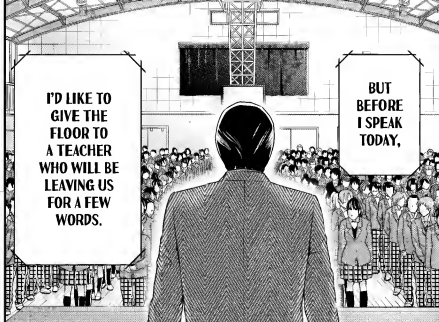
AS
SOON AS
SCHOOL
GETS
OUT,

I'LL
RUSH
OVER TO
HINA'S.

...CAME AND
WENT BY IN
A FLASH.

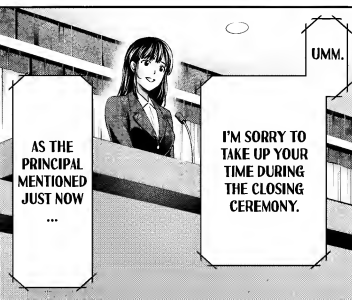
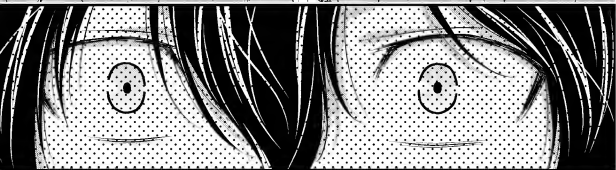
UMM.

THIS
SECOND
TERM...





CHAPTER 64: LETTER





...I WILL
BE TRANS-
FERRING
SCHOOLS.

DUE TO
PERSONAL
REASONS...



MAYBE
SHE'S
GETTING
MARRIED.

THINK
THERE WAS
SOME
KINDA
SCANDAL?

WHISPER
SHE
DIDN'T
MENTION
ANYTHING
LIKE THAT,
RIGHT?



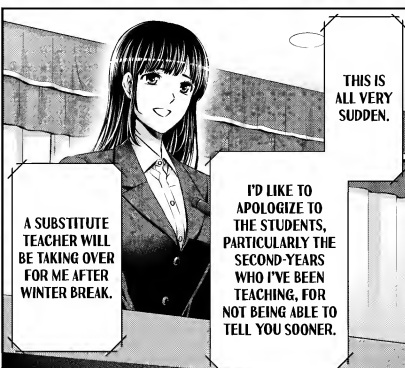
えー
WHAAAT?!



STAY
UNTIL
GRADUA-
TION!

DON'T
GO,
SENSEI!

THANK
YOU.



A SUBSTITUTE
TEACHER WILL
BE TAKING OVER
FOR ME AFTER
WINTER BREAK.

THIS IS
ALL VERY
SUDDEN.

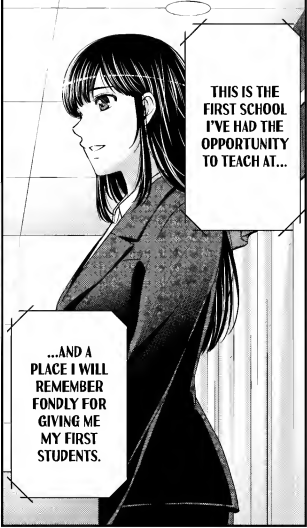
I'D LIKE TO
APOLOGIZE TO
THE STUDENTS,
PARTICULARLY THE
SECOND-YEARS
WHO I'VE BEEN
TEACHING, FOR
NOT BEING ABLE TO
TELL YOU SOONER.



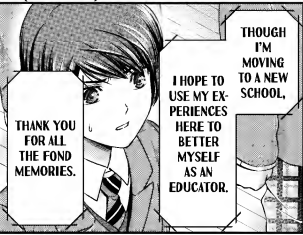
I'D LIKE TO
THINK I, TOO,
HAVE GROWN
OVER THE TWO
YEARS I'VE
SPENT WITH
YOU ALL.

I CAN'T
EXPRESS
HOW
GRATEFUL
I AM.

WHILE I
WAS A VERY
INEXPE-
RIENCED
TEACHER,



THIS IS THE
FIRST SCHOOL
I'VE HAD THE
OPPORTUNITY
TO TEACH AT...



THANK YOU
FOR ALL
THE FOND
MEMORIES.

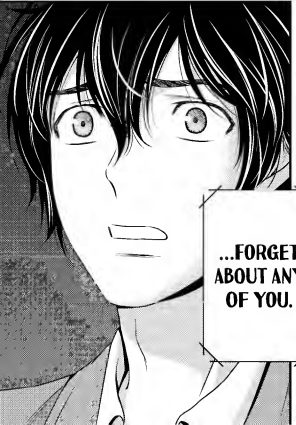
I HOPE TO
USE MY EX-
PERIENCES
HERE TO
BETTER
MYSELF
AS AN
EDUCATOR.

THOUGH
I'M
MOVING
TO A NEW
SCHOOL,

...AND A
PLACE I WILL
REMEMBER
FONDLY FOR
GIVING ME
MY FIRST
STUDENTS.



I WILL
NEVER...



...FORGET
ABOUT ANY
OF YOU.



NAT-SUO
...

RUI!

DID
SENSEI
TELL YOU
ANYTHING
ABOUT
THIS?



...BUT SHE
SEEMED
NORMAL
THEN, TOO.



THE LAST
TIME WE
MET UP
WAS RIGHT
BEFORE
TESTS.

WE TEXTED
AND TALKED
ON THE PHONE
AFTER THAT...

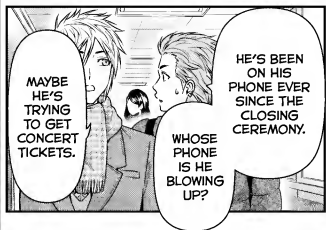


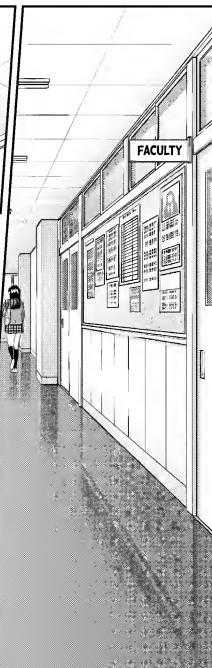
NO
...

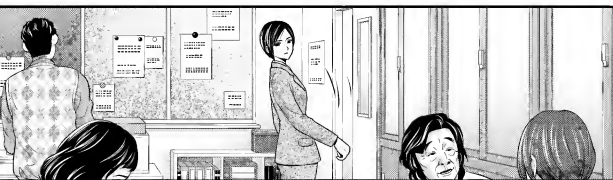
NOT YOU,
EITHER?

NOTHING...

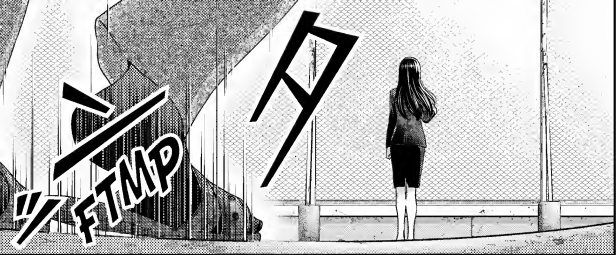
WAS SHE
ACTING
STRANGE
AT ALL?













...BY
THE
HIGHER-
UPS?



WERE
YOU
FOUND
OUT...



FUJII-
KUN'S
NOVEL,
FOR ONE.

MY
SUSPICIONS
ABOUT
CERTAIN
THINGS.

I'D
HAD
...

...!



AND WHEN
I SAW
YOU TWO
TOGETHER
DURING THE
CAMPING
TRIP...



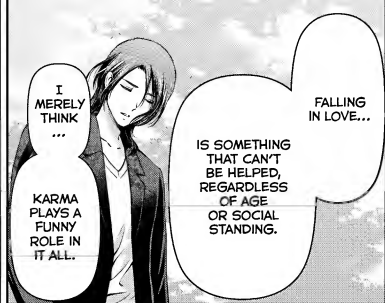
I DON'T
MEAN TO
CONDEMN
YOU.

...



WHAT
DO YOU
MEAN
...

...
KARMA
?



I
MERELY
THINK
...

KARMA
PLAYS A
FUNNY
ROLE IN
IT ALL.

FALLING
IN LOVE...

IS SOMETHING
THAT CAN'T
BE HELPED,
REGARDLESS
OF AGE
OR SOCIAL
STANDING.



WHEN
HAGIWARA-
KUN WAS
STILL YOUR
TEACHER.

THIS
HAPPENED
SOME
YEARS
AGO,



IF YOU
DECIDE TO
ACT ON
YOUR
URGES...

...YOU KNOW
WHAT WILL
HAPPEN,
DON'T YOU?



HAGI-
WARA,

I WON'T
DENOUNCE
YOUR FEEL-
INGS...

...BUT WE'RE
TALKING
ABOUT A
STUDENT.



IT'S
DESPI-
CABLE,
RIGHT?

I KNOW
THAT.

FALLING IN
LOVE WITH A
STUDENT...



IS...
THAT
SO?

IF I HAD
JUST TALKED
TO YOU,
MAYBE THIS
WOULDN'T
HAVE...

HE,
HE.



TO THINK
THAT YOU
WOULD
ACTUALLY
CROSS
THAT
LINE...

AT
THE
TIME,

HE'D ALSO
BEEN
HARBORING
AFFECTION
FOR YOU,
HIS STUDENT.



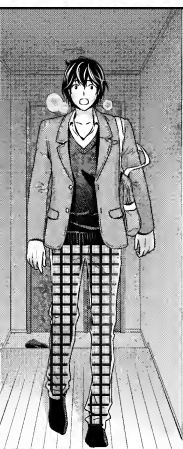
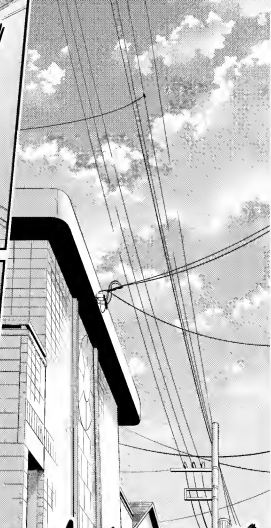
THAT'S
NOT
TRUE.

NO
...

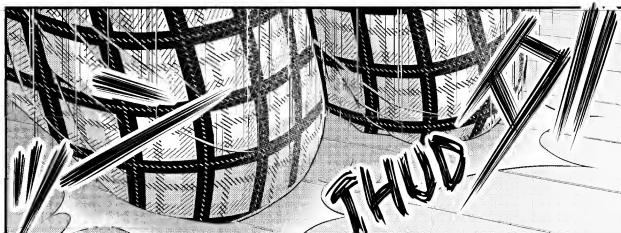
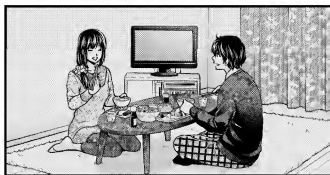
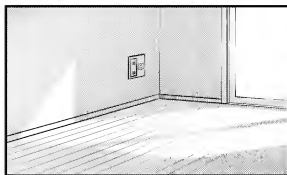


NO MATTER
HOW MUCH
YOU MIGHT
HAVE OP-
POSED IT...

...I DON'T
THINK I
WOULD'VE
BEEN ABLE
TO HOLD
BACK THESE
FEELINGS.











...to be continued.



SIDESTORY:
NIGHT OF THE OKINAWA TRIP

A
H
H
H.

I GUESS
THE GIRLS
ARE HAVING
A LITTLE
PARTY IN
RINA'S
ROOM.

AREN'T
YOU GONNA
MEET UP
WITH YOUR
GIRLFRIEND,
YUYA?

I'M SO
BORED.

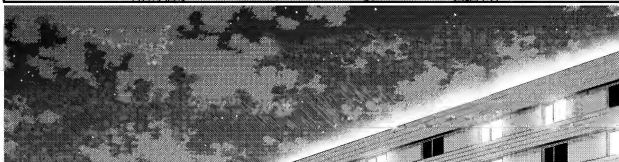
WHAAAT?
I DON'T...

DON'T
EVEN
HAVE
TO PAY
FOR A
HOTEL.

A SCHOOL
TRIP'S THE
PERFECT
OPPORTUNITY
TO GO NUTS,
TOO...

HA,
HA.

THAT'S
WHAT YOU
GET FOR
GIVING HER
THE COLD
SHOULDER
ALL THE
TIME.



**THE
KING'S
GAME?**



IT'S FUN
AND THE
RULES ARE
SIMPLE.

PERFECT,
RIGHT?

AND
NO ONE
THOUGHT
TO BRING
A DECK OF
CARDS.

I'M
SURE
YOU
GUYS
ARE
BORED,
TOO.

YUP!



THERE'S
A SIMILAR
GAME
IN THE
STATES.

OHH!

WE'RE
GONNA MIX
THINGS UP
A LITTLE
THIS TIME,
THOUGH.

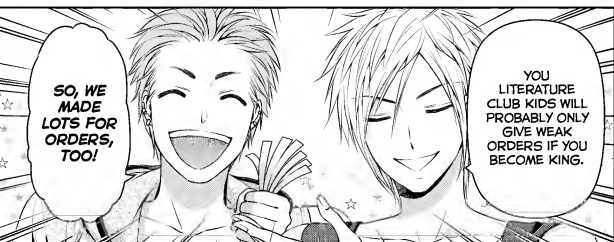


EVERYONE
DRAWS A
NUMBER, THEN
WHOEVER
PULLS THE
MARKED LOT
IS THE KING
AND GIVES
ORDERS.

UMM.

WHAT'S
THE
KING'S
GAME?

"NUMBER
ONE HAS TO
TELL NUMBER
THREE A
SECRET,"
FOR
EXAMPLE.



SO, WE
MADE
LOTS FOR
ORDERS,
TOO!

YOU
LITERATURE
CLUB KIDS WILL
PROBABLY ONLY
GIVE WEAK
ORDERS IF YOU
BECOME KING.



DON'T
UNDER-
ESTIMATE
THE DRIVE
OF PARTY
PEOPLE.

YOU
GUYS
SURE
CAME
PREPARED
...

WHO'S
THE
KING?!

ME
?!

AH!

AU
CON-
TRAI-
RE.

BUT WE
DON'T
HAVE ANY
POCKY.

"POCKY
GAME,"

IS
WHAT
IT
SAYS.

OKAY,
YOUR
HIGHNESS.
DRAW,
PLEASE.

UMM ...
TWO
AND
...

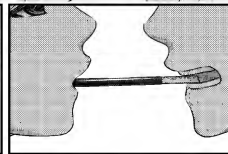
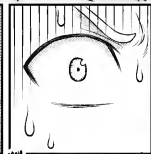
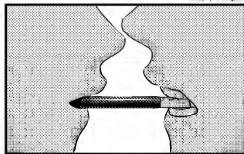
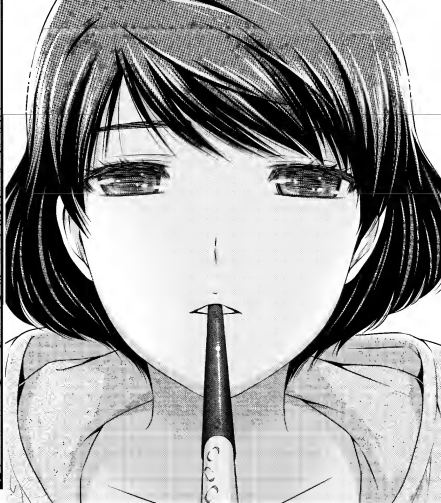
FIVE?

YOU
GUYS
ARE
TOO
PRE-
PARED.

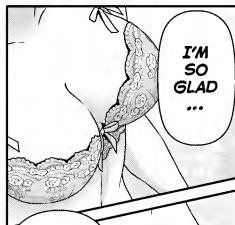
OKAY,
MIU-CHAN.
PICK SOME
NUMBERS.

TALK
ABOUT
PRES-
SURE...

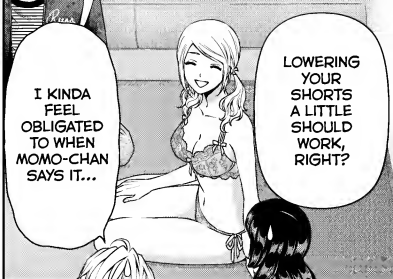














THAT
BUMMED
ME OUT...

IS THAT
WHAT
THEY CALL
"AMERICAN
SIZE"?

THANKS
NAT-CHAN.



ALLIE'S
PACKING!

WH-WH-
WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING,
YU-CHAN
?!

WHAT
WAS
THAT?!



OH.

I'M UP
THIS
TIME.



NEXT!

NO SENSE
COMPARING
YOURSELF
TO OTHERS.



AS
FOR THE
NUMBER
...

UMM.



WOULD YOU
GUYS GIVE
IT A REST
ALREADY?!

WOO-
HOO!

THIS
IS A FUN
ONE NO
MATTER
WHO
DOES IT!

I'LL GO
BUY THE
POPSI-
CLE!

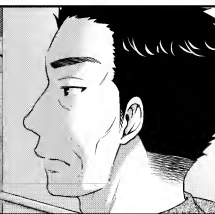
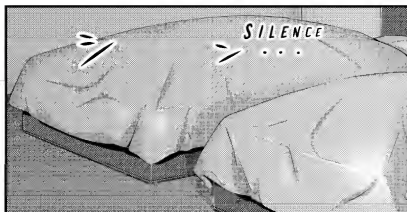


THE
OR-
DER
IS,

"EAT A
POPSICLE
SEXILY."











I'M
PASS-
ING
OUT
...

OH,
SHIT
...



YOUR
FACE IS
GETTING
HOT,
NATSUO-
KUN. ♥

ARE
YOU
EXCIT-
ED?



E-

ENOUGH
ALREADY!



I SAY
NATSUO
HAS TO
TREAT
EVERYONE
TO ICE
CREAM.

THE HELL
WERE
YOU GUYS
FOOLING
AROUND
UNDER THE
SHEETS
FOR?

MAN
...

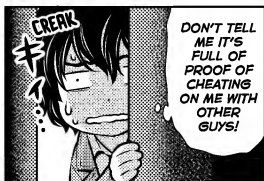
WHAT
ARE YOU
KIDS
DOING?!

IT'S MY
FAULT?!

IDIOT!



CLOSET



DOMEGIRL 4-PANEL THEATER

THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL, UHH, A SIMULATED IMAGE? IT'S JUST CG.

THEN WHAT'S THAT ABOUT? NO, WE DIDN'T.

THE COVER HAS A PRETTY SNOWY FEEL TO IT, BUT DID YOU ACTUALLY GO ANYWHERE LIKE THAT?





DEVELOPMENT



PAGE LIMITATIONS.
MY HANDS ARE TIED.



ISN'T KINDA
CRUEL TO END IT
WHEN I'M SUPER
SHOCKED?!



WELL, I WASN'T SURE
WHAT TO DO, BUT
READERS WILL GET
DEPRESSED IF I END THE
VOLUME TOO DARK.



AND WHAT'S WITH
THIS TACKY SIDE
STORY RIGHT AFTER
A SUPER SERIOUS
DEVELOPMENT?



...



THEN WRITE
SOMETHING IN!
WHAT HAPPENED
TO THAT EXTRA
MINI SERIES?



I CAN'T HEAR YOU~
♪ LA LA LA LA~ ♪



DON'T
TELL ME
YOU'RE
WRITING
IT ON THE
FLY!



CUTE



I BET
LONG HAIR
WOULD
LOOK
GOOD ON
YOU.



YOU
WANT TO
GROW
YOUR
HAIR
OUT, RUI-
RUI?



...AND
WE'LL
TRY
FINDING
A STYLE
FOR YOU!

SNAP



LET ME
TAKE
YOUR
PICTURE
WITH
THIS APP...



SUPER
CUTE!



OH,
CUTE!



THIS
ONE'S
CUTE,
TOO!



I THINK
WE HAVE
DIFFERENT
DEFINITIONS
OF "CUTE"...

AND THAT'S
SO NOT CUTE.



THIS
ONE'S
THE
CUTEST
OF THEM
ALL!

Domestic Girlfriend 7

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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